

**Genesis 9:8-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22,
Mark 1:12-15**

FOCUS: We are the people of the New Covenant.

Many people are familiar with contracts, but not so familiar with covenants. The readings from Scripture for the first Sunday of Lent center around the idea of covenant. A mortgage is a contract. A business arrangement for the supply of goods or services at a fixed price is a contract. A binding agreement between two or more persons or parties, usually after bargaining to do or not to do something, is a contract. Labor unions use collective bargaining and enter into contracts with their employers; these are perhaps the contracts best known to us.

There is a difference between a contract and a covenant. A covenant does not involve bargaining. God himself takes the initiative in a covenant, always to the great benefit of those who believe in him. The Hebrew Scriptures extol three principal covenants between God and his people. The first of these covenants is described in today's first lesson. The Book of Genesis records God's promise to Noah, "Never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood." Then the rainbow is cited "to serve as a sign of the covenant" between God and Noah and his descendants. We realize that the Book of Genesis was using a pre-history story shared by pagan nations; that people of those times were unaware of the laws of the refraction of light; and that there is a purely natural explanation for the rainbow. Genesis used this visible phenomenon to teach us about God.

The second Old Testament covenant was the one God made with Abraham, the father of the Jewish race and "our father in the faith." God said to Abraham, "I will make of you a great nation" (Gen 12:2). The sign of this covenant was the circumcision of all males born into it. Yet, a third covenant was the circumcision of all males born into it. Yet, a third covenant made with the Hebrews was the one made with Moses at Mount Sinai after the escape from Egypt. God said, "I will be your God, and you will be my people" (Lev 26:12). The keeping of the Sabbath was to be the sign of this covenant" is found throughout the Old Testament Scriptures.

At the Last Supper, Jesus spoke most solemnly about a covenant in the awesome words you hear at every Eucharist: "This is my body which will be given up for you.... This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven." Hear those words again: a new covenant, and everlasting covenant, and the sign of it is the very Blood of the Son of God, so that our sins may be forgiven! Peter reminds us in the second reading that the water of Baptism admitted us into this privileged covenant, just as in the days of Noah water saved those who were in the ark.

This is what we are given to reflect upon at the outset of holy Lent. We, the baptized and confirmed, we who participate in the Eucharist, were invited to reform our lives and believe in the Good News or to remember that we are dust and will return to dust. These were exhortations to give a new beginning to our baptismal vows and an improvement in their observance. Lent is a time to exercise our spiritual muscle in order to become stronger in the practice of the faith. What we do

MILITARY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

MCCW Outreach

The word *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." Lent began as a time of preparation for converts to Christianity (Easter was the traditional time of Baptism for the Early Church). Persons who were going to be confirmed would go through a period of prayer and fasting in preparation for their entry into Christianity. The preparation time evolved into a season that all Christians observed -- preparing themselves for the observance and remembering of the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Christ.

SCRIPTURE FOR WEEK OF Mar 9, 2003

Mon – Leviticus 19: 1-2, 11-18, Matthew 25: 31-46
Tue – Isaiah 55: 10-11, Matthew, 6: 7-15
Wed – Jonah 3: 1-10, Luke, 11: 29-32
Thurs– Esther C: 12, 14-16, 23-25, Matthew 7: 7-12
Fri – Ezekiel 18: 21-28, Matthew. 5: 20-26

Sat – Deuteronomy 26: 16-19, Matthew 5: 43-48

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Sat	8 Mar	1715	Parishioners of MHT
Sun	9 Mar	0900	Parishioners of MHT
Sun	9 Mar	1100	Parishioners of MHT
Mon	10 Mar	1205	Andrew Roth
Tue	11 Mar	1205	
Wed	12 Mar	1205	Michael Biskup
Thurs	13 Mar	1205	Duane Mullinix
Fri	14 Mar	1205	Thomas O'Connor

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Attendance and Offering Last Weekend:

Attendance 473 Offering \$1,552.50

The Designated Offering : March 8/9 will be for the “Military Archdiocese”

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HOST FAMILY FOR Mar 15-16

1715	Naessens
0900	Phillips
1100	Osterholzer

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS Mar 15–16

1715 C. Carver, E. Naessens, M. Naessens
0900 M. Martino, F. Biskup, B. Wilson
 1100 W. Lennox, A. Lennox, T. Hayden (4 Volunteers)

USHERS FOR Mar 15-16

1715	Arthur Coughlin
0900	Andy Hall
1100	Brad Ninness

ALTAR SERVERS Mar 15-16

1715	Reed Ragsdale, Kelsey Ragsdale, Kelsey Picciotto
0900	Volunteer, Volunteer, Volunteer
1100	Juliette Zimmerman, Jennifer Barrow, Wesley Carter

PROCLAIMERS FOR Mar 15-16

1715	John Blanc / Deb Dalton
0900	Bret & Bridget Wilson
1100	Matt Vetter / Eileen Kowalski

Parents We all love our little parishioners, but sometimes they pray in a way that is disturbing the people around them. Please be sensitive to the other folks who are trying to pay attention to the Mass. The Mass is being televised for you in the rectory in case the little ones are too disruptive. *Thanks for you sensitivity.*

I have a question. Whom do I call? Pastoral Coordinator...Kate Hayden

938-8760

Chaplain's Assistant... SGT M. Ong 938-721

Parish registration, Calendars, Bulletin, Maintenance, Room Scheduling, Purchase Orders, Mass Cards, Fund Requests.

Director Rel-Ed... Kay Heppes... 938-8761

Faith Formation, Rel. Education of Children & Adults, RCIA.

Wedding Coordinator....Lorraine Finn...932-2784

Wedding information, scheduling, paperwork,
Pre-Cana/Engaged Encounter information.

Director of Music.... Meredith Baker...938-3544

Adult, Children's and Cadet Choir, Wedding Music, Liturgical Music.

Pastor.... Fr. Vince Burns...938-3721

Reconciliation, Baptism, Anointing of the Sick, Pastoral and Sacramental Concerns.

Cadet Issues....Fr. Edson Wood....938-2784

Fr. Jerry Deponai ...938-2784

Visit our Web Site @<http://www.usma.edu/Chaplain/mht/>

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**RECONCILIATION, ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND
BENEDICTION:**

Wednesdays 1820-1930 MHT Chapel

[illegible]

Passion Drama We would like to do the Passion Drama again on Good Friday (18 Apr), and we need someone to serve as the director / coordinator. If you have some interest and can help, please see Father Vince

[illegible]

BAPTISMAL CLASS

APRIL 24, 2003 @ 1900, MHT Parish Rectory,

POC Father Burns @ 938-8760

[illegible]

Easter Lilly Sale:

Main Street Florist is offering to provide beautiful flowers for our chapel. You are invited to purchase a *Lilly* in memory of a loved one and have it delivered to MHT for Easter. Please call Lisa at 446-4749 for information and cost.

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“Word Among Us”

Please take a copy of this special Lenten Issue as you leave the chapel.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: GOD'S TYM

(Total Youth Ministries) POC Tanya Tolentino @ 424-3609

March 9 Guest Speakers: A panel of visiting pastors from our local Protestant churches.

Topic: Christian Perspectives

March 14 - Midnight Run

4 Mar-1 Apr Lenten Series with Father Costa
7 Mar-11 Apr
 Stations of the Cross/Soup Suppers: (Friday's)

8 Apr	Parish Reconciliation, 1900 MHT
13 Apr	Palm Sunday
17 Apr	Holy Thursday
18 Apr	Good Friday Liturgy, 1900 MHT
19 Apr	Easter Vigil, 2000 MHT
20 Apr	Easter Sunday, Mass 0900 & 1100

[illegible]

Prayers for Michael Kwinn III.

Michael Kwinn, III, son of LTCs Brigitte and Michael Kwinn is fighting cancer. The Most Holy Trinity Parish family has secured a medal of Mary of the Miraculous Medal that was touched by Mother Teresa of the Missionaries of Charity in 1997. Michael and his family have been blessed with the medal and are wearing the two medals. We are asking members of the parish family to pray to God for Michael's healing through the intercession of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and Mother Teresa whose is being considered for canonization to Sainthood. Please feel free to ask others.

Novena Prayer: O Immaculate Virgin Mary / Mother of Our Lord Jesus and our Mother, /Penetrated with the most lively confidence in your all-powerful and never-failing intercession,/ manifested so often through the Miraculous Medal,/We your loving and trustful children implore you to obtain for us the graces and favors we ask during this novena, / if they be beneficial to our immortal souls, and the souls for whom we pray./

(Healing of Michael Kwinn III)

You know, O Mary, how often our souls have been the sanctuaries of your Son who hates iniquity. / Obtain for us then a deep hatred of sin and that purity of heart which will attach us to God alone so that our every thought, word and deed may tend to His greater glory. / Obtain for us also a spirit of prayer and self-denial that we may recover by penance what we have lost by sin and at length attain to that blessed abode where you are the Queen of angels and of men. Amen

Jesus, we humbly ask you to glorify in heaven and on earth, the servant of God, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who generously participated in Your sufferings, who loved Thee so much and labored for the glory of your heavenly Father and for the good of souls.

With confidence, we beseech thee to grant us, through her intercession the grace of ...

(Healing of Michael Kwinn III) which we ardently desire.

Pray: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen (3 times)*

Format borrowed from Prayer for Intercession of Padre Pio